## ASHOKAN WORKMEN PAID BRASS CHECKS INSTEAD OF CASH

These Are Good Only at "Company Stores," Where Victims Pay Double Prices-Men Herded Like Pigs in Pen on City Contract.

When MacArthur Bros. Company, the favored contractors of the McClellan administration, got the \$12,500,000 contract for building the Ashokan Dam, and John Pierce's bid, lower by \$2,500,000, was rejected by the Board of Water Supply, the reason given for the award to the higher bidder was that the MacArthur Bros. Company was a more desirable contractor because they paid their labor so well.

The Evening World presents some evidence to-day of just how well MacArthur Bros. Company is treating its labor through the installation of a system of brass checks and the "company's store," reminders of the days of "Fingy" Conners and his chain of saloons on the shores of the Great Lakes and the riots of Homestead, Pa.

Section 384. I., of the Penal Code compels the payment of wages of employees on such work as the Aqueduct in cash. Any person, or corporation, who does not pay the wages of its employees in cash, as provided by Article 1 of the Labor law is guilty of a misdemeanor, "and upon conviction therefor shall be fined not less than \$25 nor more than

Here is the result of a careful investigation of the labor conditions on the Ashokan Dam contract:

Store System Robbery.

BY SAMUEL A. STODEL, Organizer for the Industrial Work-

are to be benefited by the pure water

conditions there for the cents a pound. Butter, of a very poor

On Nov. 18 I arrived at Brown's Sta- A pair of \$1.25 pantaloons sells for \$3, tion, which is a little settlement located while \$1.25 pairs of shoes sell for \$3 also.

sixteen miles west of Kingston on the A pair of 50-cent buckskin gloves sells Ulster and Delaware Railroad. Aside from about 1,900 working on the Ashokan Dam in various capacities, including engineers, inspectors, &c., there are probably forty families, old settlers, About two hundred of the better paid employees live at the contractors' boarding-houses, where conditions are fair, \$22.50 a month being charged. About two hundred engineers and inspectors live in very good condition at Brown's Farm and Brooks's Beaver Kill Cibs.

The 1,300 laborers are divided as to nationalities in about this proportion:
Negroes, 400, Italians and Hungarians, 800, and the remainder principally Irsth, English, Germans and Americans. When a man has worked one day he can dra'v \$1 in brass. These checks are invactors offices in 50-cent, 15-cent, 15

Thus it will be seen that a man has to work fifty days before he can get which is more of a creek than anything which is more of a creek than anything money, providing he has any left.

"Bootieggers" Are Allowed.

Thus it will be seen that a man has to work fifty days before he can get which is first piece of American by the events and insinuations of the money, providing he has any left.

"Bootieggers" Are Allowed.

Thus it will be seen that a man has to work fifty days before he can get which is first piece of American by the events and insinuations of the which you will kindly give to my sister.

"Good-bye, and remember me once in by the events and insinuations of the which you will kindly give to my sister.

which is more of a creek than anything else.

These houses for the laborers are built upon piles, about three feet above the ground, and are of rough lumber, sheathed with inferior building paper on the outside. They are about one hundred and thirty feet long and twelve feet deep and fourteen feet high. Inside they are divided off into compartments less than thirteen feet square, and in each of these compartments are tiers of bunks, with accommodation for eight persons. These bunks are made from rough lumber. There is no attempt at ventilation except from such air as comes through cracks in the floors and side walls.

In each room there is a small cooking.

In each room there is a small cooking stove, which completes the furnishings. For dishes and cooking utensils old cans picked up in the vicinity of the railroad Unloading Crank Reversed Itself station are pressed into use. The men are charged \$1 for each blanket, most of which have previously been worn The rent charged for these wretched quarters is \$2 a man a when the unloading crank of his wagon month, or \$38,500 rent a year from the workmen for premises that did not cost \$1,500 to build.

It was in regard to the condition of ming was knocked unconscious. He was the plain laborers, their wages and their taken in an ambulance to the New method of living, that I was sent into the district by the Brotherhood Welre Association, my associates on the mmittee being John C. Calhoun, the site of the old Fifth Avenue Hotel. fare Association, my associates on the Rev. William H. Johnston and Alexander Law. My instructions were to ascertain the true wages being paid to Mrs. Carter Payne Out of Bankruptcy. the laborers, how these wages were Mrs. Caroline Leslie Carter Payne, the paid, and the general conditions prevail- actress, was granted a discharge from

bankruptcy yesterday by Judge Holt in ing in the district. Instead of being paid in American the United States District Court. A pe-money for their labor, I found that these tition in bankruptcy was filed against 1,600 workmen, who are employed by the City of New York through its conshowed liabilities \$194,418 and nominal tractors, are very seldom; if ever, paid anything other than brass checks, which the contractors have installed as a medium of exchange.

#### No Cash Among Them.

These brass checks can be exchanged at a "company's store," similar to those maintained at Homestead, Pa., before the great' strike, for such articles of wearing apparel or food as the poor unfortunate laborer needs. During my stay of eleven days in the locality, trav-elling all the way from Brown's Station to High Falls, a distance of twenty miles, I was unable to change a \$1 bill among the laborers. In fact, I found that there was a premium on money— \$1 1.1 money being worth \$1.50 in brass. It was not until I had visited the store and priced the articles offered for sale there that I understood the cause behind this premium. No peddlers are sllowed to circulate among the men and

offer their goods for sale, and any who

Brass Checks Paid for Ashokan Dam Work; Investigator Who Exposes Conditions \{\frac{1}{2}}



SAMUEL A STODEL

DISCHARGE IN COURT

grace May Have Caused Newman to Kill Himself.

VANISHED AFTER HIS

# TAFT'S BROTHER

Calls Scandal Story Absurd and Agrees That Light Be Shed on Matter.

ing the recent campaign, says this "Whether Douglas Robinson, who is Relatives Fear Fancied Dis-

ten hours a day, and during my stay

#### JURY CENSURES THE INTERBOROUGH

Coroner Harburger Will Send Testimony Concerning Two Deaths to Grand Jury.

burger this afternoon returned verdicts ensuring the Interborough Rapid Tranoyees. Coroner Harburger announced intention of sending the evidence in lief that that body will find it strong enough to return indictments against ne of the high officials of the Inter-

The cases were those of Carl Henreich, thirty-five years old, who were killed at st. The men belonged to the crew of a

SENATOR CUMMINS SWORN IN

President Fairbanks.

The Crink of Our Forefathers.

BASS & CO., 50 Warren St., New York.

3

### Bonwit, Harris & Co

Broadway and 5th Ave., Cor 21st St.

**Extraordinary Suit Purchase** 

1,000 Ladies' and Misses' Tailored Suits

Will be Sold at Less Than Wholesale Prices



Broadway and 5th Ave., Cor. 21st St. \*

## NOW TAKES UP THE PANAMA PURCHASE

CINCINNATI, Dec. 8.-The Cincinnati Times-Star, of which Charles P. Taft Panama Canal, which appeared in the

letectives, who hustle the intruders out talk about the

Ulster County. The pro- The charges at the "company stores" litical value in the eyes of those who Cabbage heads bring 20 cents and up-



**Kheumatism** Limbaso

DRIVER FATALLY INJURED.

and Struck Samming.

John Samming, a sand cart driver.

was probably fatally injured to-day

two tons of sand and struck him full in the face on its first revolution. Sam-

The accident took place on the Fifth

York Hospital.

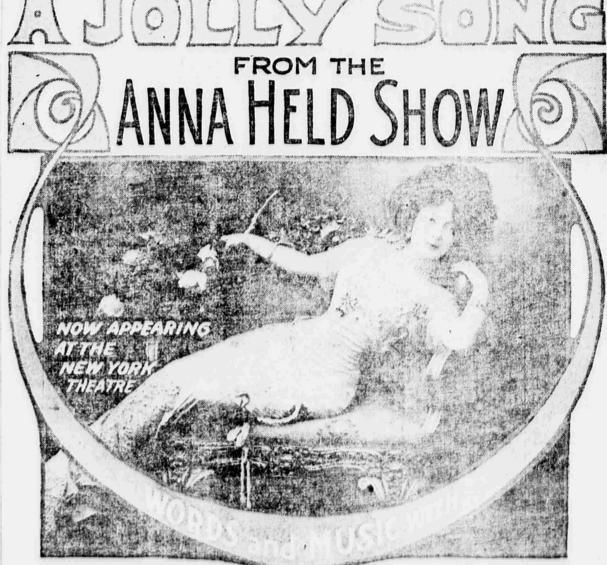
Omega Oil contains methyl salicylate, which is one of the best known remedies for Rheumatism and umbago. Rub the Oilinto the place that hurts, and the pain will stop.
There is no case so bad that Omega
Oil won't at least give relief. Trial
bottle 10c. Large sizes, 25c. and 50c.

810.00 The constantly increasing demand for our goods

has compelled us to enlarge our premises. We now have two of the LARGEST, MOST CON-\*VENIENT and ATTRACTIVE JEWELRY STORES in New York, and cordially invite an inspection of our large assortment.

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